

### **ABSTRACT**

A water filter cartridge is provided for treating drinking water in beverage machines or drinking water devices, which includes a replaceable control unit to monitor the condition of  
5 the water filter cartridge (1). The water filter cartridge according to the invention makes possible a reliable monitoring of its condition. This is accomplished according to the invention by having a control unit that includes a sensor unit (11) with at least one conductance sensor (13, 14).